

the initial determination of their fiscal year 1999 budget request, pursuant to 49 U.S.C. app. 1903(b)(7); jointly to the Committees on Transportation and Infrastructure and Appropriations.

6968. A letter from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's "Major" final rule—Medicare Program; Schedule of Limits on Home Health Agency Costs Per Visit for Cost Reporting Periods Beginning on or after October 1, 1997 [HCFA-1904-NC] (RIN: 0938-AI36) received January 12, 1998, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means and Commerce.

6969. A letter from the Acting Assistant Secretary for Force Management Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting notification of determinations that institutions of higher education have been deemed ineligible for certain Federal funding, pursuant to section 514 of the Omnibus Consolidated Appropriations Act, 1997; jointly to the Committees on National Security, Education and the Workforce, and Appropriations.

6970. A letter from the Chairperson, National Council on Disability, transmitting the Council's report entitled "National Disability Policy: A Progress Report," pursuant to 29 U.S.C. 781(a)(8); jointly to the Committees on Education and the Workforce, the Judiciary, and Transportation and Infrastructure.

6971. A letter from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting a report in response to a congressional directive contained in House Report No. 104-173, regarding contract support cost escalation; jointly to the Committees on Resources, Appropriations, and Commerce.

¶3.6 COMMUNICATION FROM THE CLERK—MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. GOODLATTE, laid before the House a communication, which was read as follows:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, January 30, 1998.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Pursuant to the permission granted to Clause 5 of Rule III of the Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk received the following message from the Secretary of the Senate on Friday, January 30, 1998 at 10:03 a.m.: that the Senate passed without amendment H.R. 3042.

With warm regards,

ROBIN H. CARLE, *Clerk.*

¶3.7 RESIGNATION AS MEMBER OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. GOODLATTE, laid before the House the following communication, which was read as follows:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, January 15, 1998.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker of the House,
The Capitol, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: It is with very mixed feelings that I write to you to tender my resignation from the House of Representatives, effective at the close of business on Friday, February 6, 1998. After so many years of watching my family's sacrifice, in the interests of public service, I find that the requirements of being more available to them now press very hard upon me. Therefore, I will leave the House and turn my attention to these pressing matters.

Serving in the House has been a profound honor, both because it has allowed me to

share in the traditions and history of the House and because of the incredible district that I was honored to represent in the House chamber. I will miss my many colleagues and the opportunity to contribute so directly to the governance of our nation. I leave with a sense of significant accomplishment, as well as with the optimism with which I entered the chamber for the first time in 1971. I will value our friendship and the challenging debate that we have engaged in over these many years.

Mr. Speaker, I wish you well and extend through you my very best wishes to all of our colleagues.

Sincerely yours,

RONALD V. DELLUMS,
Member of Congress.

¶3.8 SUBPOENA RESPONSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. GOODLATTE, laid before the House the following communication from Mr. BONILLA:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
Washington, DC, February 2, 1998.

Hon. NEWT GINGRICH,
Speaker, House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to formally notify you, pursuant to Rule L (50) of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that my office has been served with a subpoena (for written testimony and documents) issued by the 63rd District Court for Val Verde County, Texas, and directed to the "Custodian of Records, United States of Representatives."

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I have determined that compliance with the subpoena is not consistent with the precedents and privileges of the House and, therefore, that the subpoena should be resisted.

Sincerely,

HENRY BONILLA,
Member of Congress.

¶3.9 MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT—FY 1999 BUDGET

The SPEAKER pro tempore, Mr. GOODLATTE, laid before the House a message from the President, which was read as follows:

To the Congress of the United States:

The 1999 Budget, which I am submitting to you with this message, is a balanced Federal budget, marking the first such budget in 30 years and bringing an era of exploding deficits to an end.

By reaching balance, my budget represents a remarkable turnaround in our fiscal policy over the last five years. It brings to an end three decades of fiscal chaos, a period in which Americans had lost confidence in their Government and the ability of their leaders to do the people's business.

This budget is not just balanced, it is balanced the right way. It not only ends the deficit, it reflects the values that Americans hold dear—the values of opportunity, responsibility, and community. The budget reflects my commitment to continue helping working families with their basic needs—to raise their children, send them to college, and pay for health care.

The budget invests in education and training and in research to raise the standard of living for average Americans. It invests in the environment and in law enforcement to raise the quality

of life across our Nation. It invests in our communities at home while providing the resources to maintain a strong defense and conduct the international relations that have become so important to our future.

In the public and private sectors, prospects for a budget surplus are spurring a wide array of ideas about how to spend it. At this point, the Government has not yet reached the surplus milestone, and I continue to believe strongly that we should not spend a surplus that we don't yet have.

More specifically, I believe that the Administration and Congress should not spend a budget surplus for any reason until we have a solution to the long-term financing challenge facing Social Security. With that in mind, my budget proposes a reserve for the projected surpluses for 1999 and beyond.

PREPARING THE NATION FOR A NEW AMERICAN CENTURY

Five years ago, my Administration took office determined to restore the American Dream for every American. We were determined to turn the economy around, to rein in a budget that was out of control, and to create a Government that once again would focus on its customers, the American people.

Five years later, we have made enormous progress. Our economy is strong, our budget is headed toward balance, and our Government is making noticeable progress in providing better service to Americans.

We are beginning to bring Americans together again, to repair the social fabric that has frayed so badly in recent decades. All across America, crime is down, poverty is down, and welfare is down. Incomes are rising at all levels, and a new spirit of optimism is sweeping through many of our urban and rural communities that are rebounding from decades of lost jobs and lost hope.

Now that we have turned the economy around, our task is to spread the benefits of our economic well-being to more Americans, to ensure that every American has the chance to live out his or her dreams. As we move confidently ahead as a Nation, we want to ensure that nobody is left behind.

A century ago, the economy shifted from agriculture to manufacturing, changing the way that Americans lived, the way they worked, the way they related to one another. Today, the economy is shifting once more, this time from manufacturing to services, information, technology, and global commerce.

We can ensure that every American fully enjoys the benefits of this exciting new age, but only if we continue to give people the tools they need and create the conditions in which they can prosper. That is what my budget is designed to do.

CREATING A BRIGHT ECONOMIC FUTURE

When my Administration took office, the Nation was mired in economic problems. The economy had barely grown over four years, creating few jobs. Interest rates were high. Incomes